PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

US APPLICATION NO: New) APPLICANT'S FILE REF. NO.:) 7525/PCT/US
INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE: 3 April 2003) APPLICANT: NESTEC S.A.
TITLE: METHOD OF IMPROVING ABSORPTION OF VITAMIN E BY A PET ANIMAL)))

TO: Mail Stop PCT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Applicant requests that any amendments made to the claims pursuant to Article 19, Article 34, or pursuant to a response to a Written Opinion under PCT prosecution not be entered into the record of the U.S. National Phase Application, as those claims are written in the format customary for European patent prosecution.

Please make the following amendment to the above-referenced application prior to examination on its merits:

In the specification, at page 1 after the title, and before the heading "Field of Invention", please insert:

This application is a U.S. National Phase of PCT/EP03/03523 that was filed on 3 April 2003, that claims priority to E.P. Application Number 02076346.2 filed 5 April 2002.

In the claims:

Claims 1-34 (cancel).